

REMARKS

The present invention relates to a mold insert that can be used with a mold for making a molded article, the mold insert having a first surface that is a complement of a desired structure on the surface of the molded article, the mold insert being mountable on the inner surface of the mold cavity. This allows the insert to be removed without disassembling the entire mold. In a preferred embodiment, the first surface of the mold insert is provided with a plurality of hook-shaped cavities to form a field of integrally molded hooks on the surface of the molded article.

Claim 1 has been amended to, inter alia, recite a "mold cavity," thus providing antecedent basis for the recitation of "mold cavity" in claim 2. It is submitted that this amendment is sufficient to overcome the rejection of claims 2-7 under 35 U.S.C. § 112.

Claims 1-5 and 11-18 have been rejected as anticipated by Korsch, and claims 1, 8-10, 14, 15, and 18 have been rejected as anticipated by Chittenden. Each of these references disclose a mold having a mold insert, in which the mold insert is mounted to the mold at mating shoulders of the two halves of the mold. (See Korsch Fig. 2, ref. numerals 6, 7, 8 and col. 4, lines 16-26; Chittenden, Fig. 2, ref. numerals 22, 23, and 24, col. 2, lines 39-43). This structure is different from that of the present invention, in which the mold insert is mounted directly to the inner surface of the mold cavity that defines the molded article. Claim 1 has been amended to recite that the mold cavity is that which defines the shape of the molded article, and that the insert is mounted on the inner surface of the mold cavity. Claim 11 has been amended to recite that the mold comprises means on the inner surface of the mold cavity for receiving means for mounting the mold insert. Claim 14 has been amended to clarify that the mold insert is mountable on the inner surface of the mold cavity. New claims 22 and 23 likewise recite that the insert is

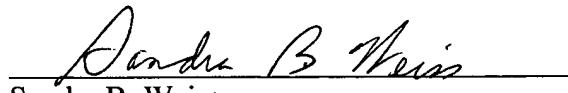
mountable on the inner surface of the mold cavity. It is believed that these amendments are sufficient to distinguish the claimed invention over the Korsch and Chittenden references.

Claim 1 has been amended further to recite that the insert has a surface which is a complement of a field of integrally molded hooks. Claims 5, 7, and 8 have been amended to correct typographical and grammatical errors. Claim 11 has been amended to incorporate the limitations of claim 12. Claim 12 has been cancelled accordingly, and claim 13 has been amended to depend from claim 11. Claim 18 has been amended to add the word "cavity" and to correct the claim form.

New claim 22 corresponds to claim 6, and includes the limitations of all the intervening claims, along with the corrections to comply with 35 U.S.C. § 112. New claims 23-25 correspond to claims 19-21, with claim 23 including all the limitations of claim 19 and independent claim 14.

As all of the Examiner's requirements have been met, a Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested. The Examiner is authorized to charge any fees related to this amendment to Deposit Account No. 10-1202.

Respectfully submitted,



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